

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dale Tyson ROBERTS et. al.

Serial No.: (Cont. of 09/354,166)

Group Art Unit:

Filed: (Concurrently)

Examiner:

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING WEB PAGES BASED ON
PLAYBACK OF RECORDINGS**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Replace the title with --METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING WEB PAGES
BASED ON PLAYBACK OF RECORDINGS--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Between the title and the heading "BACKGROUND", insert a new section entitled:
--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial Number
09/354,166, filed July 16, 1999 which is a divisional of co-pending U.S. Patent Application
Serial Numbers 08/838,082 filed April 15, 1997 and 09/060,876 filed April 15, 1998 all three
hereby incorporated by reference.--

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1 (first full paragraph on page
3), as follows:

--In one aspect of the invention, software is provided which permits a computer
program running on a remote host to control a compact disc (CD) player, DVD player, or the
like on a user's computer. (For convenience, we use the term "CD player" to refer also to

DVD players and similar devices.) The software is designed to permit the remote host both to initiate actions on the CD player and to become aware of actions which the user has initiated by other control means, such as the buttons on the CD player's front panel or a different CD player control program. This aspect of the invention is a building-block for the provision of complementary entertainment for musical recordings when those recordings are fixed in the prevailing contemporary form, the audio CD.--

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4 (first full paragraph on page 7), as follows:

--The command plug-in is preferably written in a conventional programming language such as C++. The plug-in must conform to the existing standards for plug-ins, such as those required of Microsoft ActiveX objects. In order to obtain the information and carry out the functions which the command plug-in makes available to the scripting language, the command plug-in relies on functions which provide control and information regarding the playing musical recording. These functions will depend on the precise source of the recording. If, as in the currently preferred embodiment, the recording is being played on an audio CD in the computer CD player, and if the browser is running under Microsoft Windows 3.1 or Windows 95, these functions would be the MCI functions, which form a part of the Win32 application programming interface. These functions are documented, for example, in *Microsoft Win32 Programmer's Reference*. Different functions may be provided by streaming audio receivers, as for example receivers which capture audio which is coming into the user's computer over a network connection in a suitable audio encoding format such as MPEG.--

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 12 (second full paragraph at page 8), as follows:

--In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the synchronization of the visual content to the audio CD proceeds as follows. The visual content is provided by means of a Shockwave animation, which is downloaded from the server and displayed for the user by means of a Shockwave plug-in. This downloading may take place before the animation is displayed, or alternatively it may take place as the animation is being displayed, provided the user's connection to the network is fast enough to support download at an appropriate speed. The downloading is a function provided by the Shockwave plug-in itself.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **CANCEL** claim 1 and **ADD** the following claims:

2. (NEW) A method for associating local and remote data on a local computer connected to a network, comprising:
outputting on the local computer remote data based on playback of a recording by the local computer, the remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage
5 location dynamically determined when the playback of the recording occurs.

3. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising obtaining the remote data using at least one uniform resource locator corresponding to the recording, the at least one uniform resource locator obtained from the network by the local computer.

4. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 3, wherein the remote data is display data representing a World Wide Web page.

5. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:
automatically executing a communication program for communication via the network and output of the remote data received from the network, when the recording is played;
5 determining an identifier for the recording from information associated with the recording;
determining at a remote computer at least one location, corresponding to the identifier, where the remote data is stored; and
automatically sending the remote data from the at least one location to the local
10 computer via the network.

6. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the communication program is a web browser, the network is the Internet, and the remote data is display data representing at least part of one web page.

7. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the information used to determine the identifier includes table of contents information for the recording.

8. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 7,
wherein the recording is stored on a disc, and

wherein said executing and determining begins when the disc is inserted into a disc drive coupled with the local computer, regardless of whether the communication program
5 has been initiated.

9. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the remote data includes at least one of an image associated with the recording, animation associated with the recording, and a video associated with the recording.

10. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 9,
wherein the recording is stored on a disc, and
wherein the remote data includes display data representing an album cover
associated with the disc.

11. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one name of a song included in the recording.

12. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the recording is on a compact disc containing a plurality of tracks, and
wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one title of a corresponding track on the compact disc.

13. (NEW) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for associating a recording at a local computer with data at a remote computer coupled to the local computer via a network, comprising:

determining an identifier from information associated with the recording;
5 automatically accessing the remote computer at a location dynamically determined after verification of access to the recording by the local computer; and
comparing the identifier with records in a database maintained on the remote computer.

14. (NEW) A system coupled to a network, comprising:
an access unit to access local data containing no content stored for the purpose of providing enhanced capability;
a communication unit to automatically obtain remote data from the network
5 upon access to the local data; and

a processing unit, coupled to said access unit and said communication unit, to provide the enhanced capability by processing the remote data.

15. (NEW) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for associating a recording with output of remote data on a local computer connected to a network, comprising:

- 5 outputting remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage location dynamically determined after verification of access to the recording by the local computer.

16. (NEW) At least one computer program as recited in claim 15, further comprising prompting input of a disc containing the recording; and verifying access to the recording on the disc.

17. (NEW) A method for associating remote and local data on a local device connected to a network, comprising:

- 5 automatically obtaining the remote data using at least one uniform resource locator corresponding to the local data and obtained from the network by the local device; and
 outputting at the local device the remote data obtained from the network, based on access to the local data by the local device.

18. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 17, further comprising obtaining the remote data using at least one uniform resource locator corresponding to the local data and obtained from the network by the local device.

19. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the remote data is an Internet resource.

20. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 17, further comprising:

 automatically executing a communication program for communication via the network and output of the remote data received from the network, when the local data is accessed;

- 5 determining an identifier from information associated with the local data; and
 automatically requesting the remote data based on the identifier.

21. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the communication program is a web browser, the network is the Internet, and the remote data is an Internet resource.

22. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the remote data include an electronic file of digitally encoded audio.

23. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the remote data include at least one of an image associated with the local data, animation associated with the local data, and a video associated with the local data.

24. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 23,
wherein the local data is an electronic file of digitally encoded audio, and
wherein the remote data include an album cover associated with the electronic
file.

25. (NEW) A system, coupled to a network, to associate remote data with local data,
comprising:

an access unit to access the local data;
a communication unit to automatically obtain the remote data from the network
upon access to the local data, using at least one uniform resource locator obtained from the
network and corresponding to the local data; and
an output unit to output the remote data.

26. (NEW) A system as recited in claim 25, wherein said communication unit obtains
the remote data using at least one uniform resource locator obtained from the network and
corresponding to the local data.

27. (NEW) A system as recited in claim 26, wherein the local data is included in a
recording and is accessed to play the recording for a user of the local device.

28. (NEW) A system as recited in claim 27, wherein the recording is an electronic file
of digitally encoded audio.

29. (NEW) A system as recited in claim 28,
wherein the electronic file is stored on a disc,

wherein said access unit is a disc playback unit, and
wherein said communication unit requests the remote data upon insertion of the disc into said playback unit.

30. (NEW) A system as recited in claim 26, wherein the remote data include an electronic file of digitally encoded audio.

31. (NEW) A system as recited in claim 25, wherein the remote data include at least one of an image associated with the local data, animation associated with the local data, and a video associated with the local data.

32. (NEW) A system as recited in claim 31,
wherein the local data is an electronic file of digitally encoded audio, and
wherein the remote data include an album cover associated with the electronic file.

33. (NEW) A method for associating a recording with output of data on a local computer connected to a network, comprising:
outputting remote data obtained from the network upon verification of access to the recording by the local computer, the remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage location dynamically determined after the recording is accessed.

34. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 33, further comprising
prompting input of a disc containing the recording; and
verifying access to the recording on the disc.

35. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 33, wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one name of a song included in the recording.

36. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 33, wherein the recording is on a compact disc containing a plurality of tracks, and
wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one title of a corresponding track on the compact disc.

37. (NEW) A computer system coupled to a network, comprising:
a playback unit to play a recording;

a communication unit to obtain remote data via the network from at least one storage location dynamically determined when playback of the recording occurs; and
5 an output unit to output the remote data.

38. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 37, wherein said communication unit obtains the remote data using at least one uniform resource locator corresponding to the recording.

39. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 37, wherein said communication unit obtains the remote data including at least one name of a song included in the recording.

40. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 37, wherein the recording is on a compact disc containing a plurality of tracks, and
wherein said communication unit obtains the remote data including at least one title of a corresponding track on the compact disc.

41. (NEW) A method for associating remote data with a recording accessed at a local computer connected to a network to provide enhanced capability based on the remote data, comprising:

5 outputting remote data, obtained from the network and providing enhanced capability, upon verification of access by the local computer to a recording containing no content stored for the purpose of providing the enhanced capability.

42. (NEW) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for associating remote data with a recording accessed at a local computer connected to a network to provide enhanced capability based on the remote data, comprising:

5 outputting remote data, obtained from the network and providing enhanced capability, upon verification of access by the local computer to a recording containing no content stored for the purpose of providing enhanced capability.

43. (NEW) A method for controlling a local computer connected to a network to provide enhanced capability not available from content stored at the local computer, comprising:

controlling the local computer to provide the enhanced capability based on
5 remote data obtained from the network upon verification of access by the local computer to a
recording containing no content stored for the purpose of providing enhanced capability.

44. (NEW) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium,
embodying a method for controlling a local computer connected to a network to provide
enhanced capability not available from content stored at the local computer, comprising:

controlling the local computer to provide the enhanced capability based on
5 remote data obtained from the network upon verification of access by the local computer to a
recording containing no content stored for the purpose of providing enhanced capability.

45. (NEW) A method for obtaining data related to a recording, comprising:
determining an identifier from information associated with the recording;
using the identifier as a key to locate at least one record in at least one database

file; and

5 obtaining data from at least one related file linked to the at least one database
file.

46. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 45, wherein the database file specifies
identifiers for other related recordings.

47. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 45, wherein said obtaining comprises:
obtaining correlated identifiers for related recordings; and
obtaining a plurality of related linked database files using the correlated
identifiers.

48. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 45, wherein said obtaining comprises:
obtaining an array of identifiers for related recordings; and
obtaining a plurality of related linked database files using the array of
identifiers.

49. (NEW) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium,
embodying a method for obtaining data related to a recording, comprising:
determining an identifier from information associated with the recording;

5 using the identifier as a key to locate at least one record in at least one database
file; and
obtaining data from at least one related file linked to the at least one database
file.

50. (NEW) At least one computer program as recited in claim 49, wherein the
database file specifies identifiers for other related recordings.

51. (NEW) At least one computer program as recited in claim 49, wherein said
obtaining comprises:

obtaining correlated identifiers for related recordings; and
obtaining a plurality of related linked database files using the correlated
5 identifiers.

52. (NEW) At least one computer program as recited in claim 49, wherein said
obtaining comprises:

obtaining an array of identifiers for related recordings; and
obtaining a plurality of related linked database files using the array of
5 identifiers.

53. (NEW) A computer system, coupled to a network, to associate data with
recordings, comprising:

a communication unit to receive via the network at least one of an identifier and
information associated with a recording used to determine the identifier;

5 a storage unit storing at least one database file; and

a database access unit, coupled to said communication unit and said storage unit,
to use the identifier as a key to locate at least one record in the at least one database file, said
communication unit outputting via the network at least one related file linked to the at least one
database file.

54. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 53, wherein the at least one
database file specifies identifiers for other related recordings.

55. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 53,

wherein the at least one database file in said storage unit includes correlated identifiers for related recordings,

5 wherein said database access unit accesses related linked database files using the correlated identifiers, and

wherein said communication unit outputs the related linked database files via the network.

56. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 53,

wherein said database access unit accesses an array of identifiers for related recordings and related linked database files using the array of identifiers, and

5 wherein said communication unit outputs the related linked database files via the network.

57. (NEW) A computer system to associate data with a recording, comprising:

a processor to determine an identifier from information associated with the recording;

a storage unit storing at least one database file; and

5 a database access unit, coupled to said processor and said storage unit, to use the identifier as a key to locate at least one record in the at least one database file.

58. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 57, wherein the at least one database file specifies identifiers for other related recordings.

59. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 57,

wherein the at least one database file in said storage unit includes correlated identifiers for related recordings,

5 wherein said database access unit accesses related linked database files using the correlated identifiers.

60. (NEW) A computer system as recited in claim 57, wherein said database access unit accesses an array of identifiers for related recordings and related linked database files using the array of identifiers.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to continue the prosecution of claims that were not allowed in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/354,166 and to submit additional claims directed to similar subject matter.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application and that the claims receive favorable examination at the earliest possible date.

If any fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1 (first full paragraph on page 3), as follows:

--In one aspect of the invention, software is provided which permits a computer program running on a remote host to control a compact [disk] disc (CD) player, DVD player, or the like on a user's computer. (For convenience, we use the term "CD player" to refer also to DVD players and similar devices.) The software is designed to permit the remote host both to initiate actions on the CD player and to become aware of actions which the user has initiated by other control means, such as the buttons on the CD player's front panel or a different CD player control program. This aspect of the invention is a building-block for the provision of complementary entertainment for musical recordings when those recordings are fixed in the prevailing contemporary form, the audio CD.--

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4 (first full paragraph on page 7), as follows:

--The command plug-in is preferably written in a conventional programming language such as C++ . The [plug in] plug-in must conform to the existing standards for plug-ins, such as those required of Microsoft ActiveX objects. In order to obtain the information and carry out the functions which the command plug-in makes available to the scripting language, the command plug-in relies on functions which provide control and information regarding the playing musical recording. These functions will depend on the precise source of the recording. If, as in the currently preferred embodiment, the recording is being played on an audio CD in the computer CD player, and if the browser is running under Microsoft Windows 3.1 or Windows 95, these functions would be the MCI functions, which form a part of the Win32 application programming interface. These functions are documented, for example, in *Microsoft Win32 Programmer's Reference*. Different functions may be provided by streaming audio receivers, as for example receivers which capture audio which is coming into the user's computer over a network connection in a suitable audio encoding format such as MPEG.--

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 12 (second full paragraph at page 8), as follows:

--In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the synchronization of the visual content to the audio CD proceeds as follows. The visual content is provided by means of a Shockwave animation, which is downloaded from the server and displayed for the user by means of a Shockwave plug-in. This downloading may take place before the animation is displayed, or alternatively it [make] may take place as the animation is being displayed, provided the user's connection to the network is fast enough to support download at an appropriate speed. The downloading is a function provided by the Shockwave plug-in itself.--